

CLAIMS

1. A fastener for holding together a group of documents, the fastener comprising a foldable sheet having at least one anchor portion, at least one tab portion and attachment
5 means for attaching said portions to at least the first and last documents of the group upon being folded around an edge of the group, wherein the sheet is marked with at least one fold line to be aligned with at least one edge of the group upon attachment of the anchor portion to the first document in the group, prior to folding the tab portion around that edge of the group for attachment to the last document in the group.
- 10 2. The fastener of Claim 1, wherein the attachment means comprises repositional adhesive.
3. The fastener of Claim 2, wherein the adhesive is a layer on one side of the sheet.
- 15 4. The fastener of Claim 3, wherein a minor edge portion of said side of the sheet is non-adhesive.
5. The fastener of any preceding Claim, wherein the anchor portion and the tab portion
20 are distinguished by different shading or colouring.
6. The fastener of Claim 5, wherein a mutual boundary between the anchor portion and the tab portion is marked by a printed line, a line of perforations or a crease line.
- 25 7. The fastener of Claim 6 when appendant to Claim 2, wherein the boundary is marked by a crease line and wherein a relatively strong adhesive extends along and across the crease line.
8. The fastener of any preceding Claim, wherein first and second fold lines divide the
30 sheet into a central anchor portion and first and second outer tab portions foldable around mutually orthogonal edges at a corner of the grouped documents.

9. The fastener of Claim 8 wherein at least one of the outer tab portions is divided into two or more segments each foldable around one of the mutually orthogonal edges of the group for attachment to a respective document of the group.
- 5 10. The fastener of Claim 8, wherein the tab portions substantially abut upon being attached to the last document of the group after said folding.
11. The fastener of any of Claims 8 to 10, wherein the first and second fold lines are mutually orthogonal.
- 10 12. The fastener of Claim 11, wherein the first and second fold lines intersect at an edge of the sheet.
13. The fastener of Claim 11, wherein extensions of the first and second fold lines
15 intersect outside the periphery of the sheet.
14. The fastener of Claim 13, wherein a notch extends inwardly from the edge of the sheet in the region of said intersection.
- 20 15. The fastener of any preceding Claim, wherein the sheet is oblong.
16. The fastener of Claim 15, wherein the ratio of long edges to short edges of the oblong is 2:1.
- 25 17. The fastener of Claim 15 or Claim 16, wherein the fold lines divide the sheet into a central triangular anchor portion flanked by two outer triangular tab portions inverted with respect to the central triangular anchor portion.
18. The fastener of Claim 17 when appendant to Claim 10, wherein when the tab portions
30 substantially abut upon being attached to the last document of the group, they cooperate to form a triangle on the reverse of the last document corresponding to the central triangular anchor portion attached to the first document of the group.

19. The fastener of any of Claims 11 to 14, wherein the mutually orthogonal fold lines divide the sheet into a central anchor portion flanked by two outer tab portions and wherein the central anchor portion is defined by the mutually orthogonal fold lines and at least one edge joining outer ends of the fold lines.

20. The fastener of Claim 19 wherein the edge comprises two mutually orthogonal sides opposing the fold lines.

21. The fastener of Claim 20 wherein each of the sides is parallel to an opposing one of the fold lines to define a central rectangular anchor portion.

22. The fastener of Claim 19 wherein the at least one edge is curved or irregular.

23. The fastener of any of Claims 19 to 22 wherein at least one border of the anchor portion is an extension of a mutual boundary between the anchor portion and an outer tab portion.

24. The fastener of any preceding Claim and bearing graphical matter or indicia divided into components borne by respective ones of first and second tab portions, which components are united to be viewed together when the tab portions are attached to the last document of the group.

25. A pad of fasteners as defined in any preceding Claim.

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26. A method of fastening a group of documents using a fastener as defined in Claim 8 or any Claim dependent therefrom, the method comprising:

aligning the first and second fold lines of the fastener with the edges of the first document of the group in the corner to be fastened;

30 attaching the anchor portion of the fastener to said first document;

adding a second document to the group in alignment with the first document;

folding a first tab portion of the fastener around an associated edge of the group and attaching that tab portion to the second document;

adding a third document to the group in alignment with the first and second documents;

- 5 folding a second tab portion of the fastener around an associated edge of the group and attaching that tab portion to the third document.

27. The method of Claim 26 wherein the first and second tab portions are folded around different edges of the group.

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28. The method of Claim 26 or Claim 27 when employing the fastener of Claim 9 or any Claim dependent therefrom, wherein the segments of a tab portion are attached to respective different documents of the group.